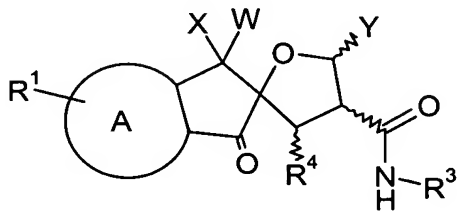
WE CLAIM

1. A compound of formula (I), or an enantiomer or diastereoisomer thereof:



(I)

wherein:

A is a 5- or 6-membered carbocyclic ring;

X is H and W is OH; or X and W together form a carbonyl group or an epoxide;

R^1 is H; or one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: hydroxy; halo; lower alkyl; lower alkoxy; lower thioalkyl; haloalkyl (e.g. trifluoromethyl); or $-C(O)R^2$ wherein R^2 is lower alkyl, aryloxy or benzyloxy;

Y is phenyl optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^5 or $C(O)R^6$, wherein R^5 is lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, nitrile or trifluoromethyl, and R^6 is lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxy or trifluoromethyl; said phenyl ring being optionally fused with a saturated or unsaturated 4 to 6-membered carbocyclic ring;

or Y is ethylene-phenyl, said ethylene moiety being optionally mono-substituted with lower alkyl, wherein said phenyl ring is optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^5 or $C(O)R^6$, wherein R^5 and R^6 are as defined above; said phenyl ring being optionally fused with a saturated or unsaturated 4 to 6-membered carbocyclic ring;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of: aryl, mono- or di-substituted with:

Het, said Het optionally mono- or di-substituted with lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, nitrile, trifluoromethyl, $C(O)R^6$ wherein R^6 is as defined above;

wherein each Het is independently a five- or six-membered, unsaturated heterocycle containing from one to three heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

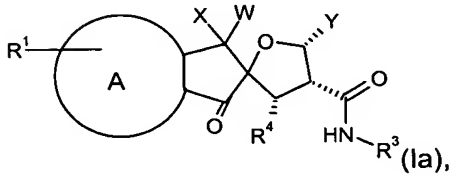
said Het being optionally fused with a saturated or unsaturated 4 to 6-membered ring

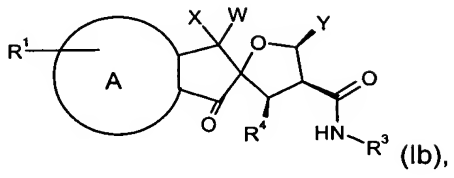
optionally containing a heteroatom selected from N, O and S;

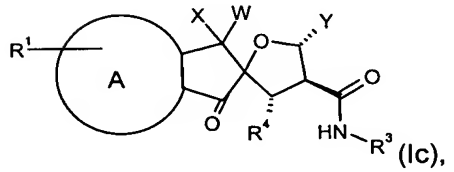
and

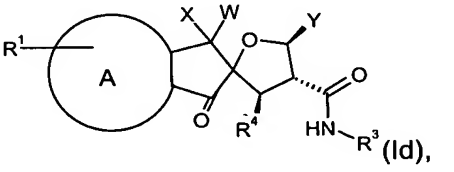
R^4 is a carboxylic acid, a salt or an ester thereof.

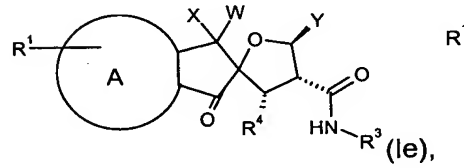
2. A compound selected from:

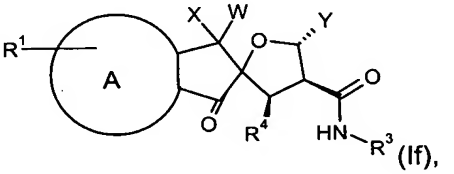

(Ia),

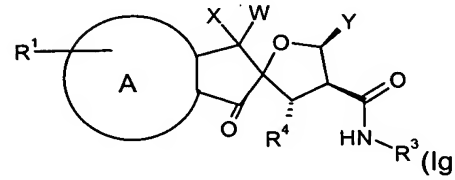

(Ib),

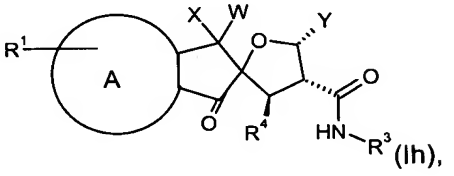

(Ic),


(Id),


(Ie),


(If),


(Ig), and


(Ih),

wherein A, X, R^1, Y, R^3, and R^4 are as defined in claim 1.

3. A mixture of compound I(a) and compound I(b), each according to claim 2.

4. A mixture of compound I(c) and compound I(d), each according to claim 2.

5. A compound mixture according to claim 3, wherein said mixture is racemic.

6. A compound mixture according to claim 4, wherein said mixture is racemic.

7. A compound I(a) according to claim 2, as a pure enantiomer.

8. A compound I(b) according to claim 2, as a pure enantiomer.

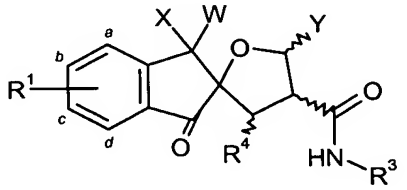
9. A compound I(c) according to claim 2, as a pure enantiomer.

10. A compound I(d) according to claim 2, as a pure enantiomer.

11. A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is H and W is OH; or X and W form a carbonyl group.

12. A compound according to claim 9 wherein X and W form a carbonyl group.

13. A compound according to claim 1 wherein ring A is a benzene ring, as represented by the formula I':



I'

wherein X, R^1, W, Y, R^3, and R^4 are as defined in claim 1.

14. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is H; or one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: hydroxy; halo; lower alkyl; lower alkoxy; lower thioalkyl; haloalkyl; or $-C(O)R^2$ wherein R^2 is lower alkyl, aryloxy or benzyloxy.

15. A compound according to claim 14, wherein R^1 is H, halo or C_{1-4} alkyl.

16. A compound according to claim 15, wherein R^1 is H, fluoro or methyl.

17. A compound according to claim 16, wherein R^1 is H or methyl.

18. A compound according to claim 1, wherein Y is phenyl optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^5 or $C(O)R^6$, wherein R^5 is lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy, halo, hydroxy, nitrile or trifluoromethyl, and R^6 is lower alkyl, lower cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxy or trifluoromethyl; said phenyl ring being optionally fused with a saturated or unsaturated 4 to 6-membered carbocyclic ring; or Y is ethylene-phenyl, said ethylene moiety being optionally mono-substituted with lower alkyl, wherein said phenyl ring is optionally mono- or di-substituted with R^5 or $C(O)R^6$, wherein R^5 and R^6 are as defined above; said phenyl ring being optionally fused with a saturated or unsaturated 4- to 6-membered carbocyclic ring.

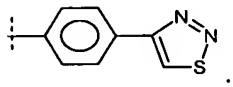
19. A compound according to claim 18, wherein Y is naphthyl, CH=CH-phenyl, $C(CH_3)$=CH-phenyl or phenyl, wherein the phenyl ring is optionally mono- or di-substituted at the 3, 4, or 5 position with R^5, wherein R^5 is halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy , CF_3 or NHC(O)-(lower alkyl).

20. A compound according to claim 19, wherein Y is phenyl optionally substituted with: 3,4-Cl; 3-F,4-Cl; 3-Cl,4-F; 3,4-Br; 3-F,4-CH_3; 3,4-CH_3; 3-CF_3 or NHC(O)-

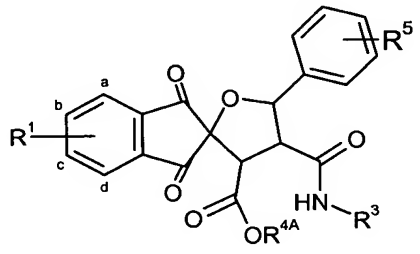
$(CH_2)_3CH_3$.

21. A compound according to claim 20, wherein Y is phenyl optionally substituted with: 3,4-Cl or 3,4-Br.

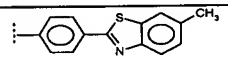
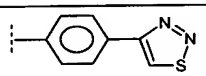
22. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is:

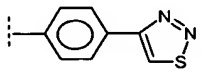
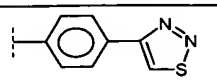


23. A compound selected from the group consisting of: compounds having the following formula:



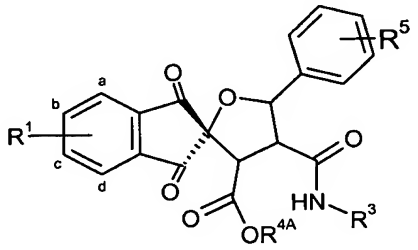
, wherein R^{4A}, R^1, R^5 and R^3 are as defined as follows:

Cpd #	R^{4A}	R^1	$--R^5$	$--R^3$
1028	Na	--	3,4-Cl	 ;
1052	Na	--	3,4-Cl	 ;

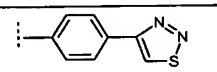
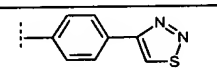
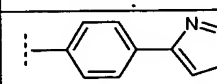
Cpd #	R^{4A}	R^1	$--R^5$	$--R^3$
1076	Na	--	3,4-Br	
1083	Na	--	3,4-F	

; and .

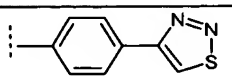
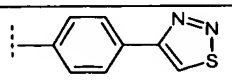
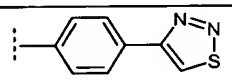
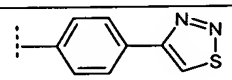
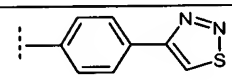
24. A compound selected from the group consisting of: compounds having the following formula:



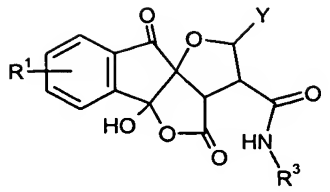
wherein R^{4A}, R^1, R^5, and R^3 are as defined as follows:

Cpd #	R^{4A}	R^1	$--R^5$	$--R^3$
A1001	Na	--	3,4-Br	 stereochemistry undetermined
A1002	Na	--	3,4-Br	 stereochemistry undetermined
A1006	Na	mixture b-Me & c-Me	3,4-Cl	 stereochemistry undetermined

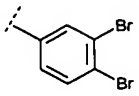
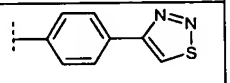
; ; ;

Cpd #	R^{4A}	R^1	$--R^5$	$--R^3$	
A1007	Na	b-Me	3,4-Cl	 stereochemistry undetermined	;
A1008	Na	c-Me	3,4-Cl	 stereochemistry undetermined	;
A1009	Na	mixture b-Me & c-Me	3,4-Br	 stereochemistry undetermined	;
A1010	Na	b-Me	3,4-Br	 stereochemistry undetermined	; and
A1011	Na	c-Me	3,4-Br	 stereochemistry undetermined	.

25. A compound having the following formula:



wherein R^1, Y, and R^3 are as defined as follows:

Cpd #	R^1	--Y	--R^3
3013	c-Me		

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-papillomavirus virally effective amount of a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, or a therapeutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium or auxiliary agent.

27. A method for treating a papillomavirus viral infection in a mammal by administering to the mammal an anti-papilloma virus virally effective amount of a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, or a therapeutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, or a pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-papillomavirus virally effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a therapeutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium or auxiliary agent.

28. A method for inhibiting the replication of papillomavirus by exposing the virus to an amount of a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1 inhibiting the papilloma virus E1-E2-DNA complex, or a therapeutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, or a

composition comprising an anti-papillomavirus virally effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a therapeutically acceptable salt or ester thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium or auxiliary agent.

29. A method of preventing perinatal transmission of HPV from mother to baby, by administering a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, to the mother prior to giving birth.